

TEMPORAL REFLUX

Philip M Brown.

For we who have survived the many ravages of time,
Look back now with sadness, at life's cruel pantomime,
And a lifetime can disappear, like the blinking of an eye,
So quickly, so it seems to me, the years will pass us by.

But say we could reverse this inexorable forward flow,
Return once more to our childhood years, so very long ago.
Then look toward the future and make changes along the way,
Worry not about what's to come, but live life fully every day.

Say we could correct the blunders in our distant past,
All the embarrassing, silly mistakes, that left us so aghast.
Wishing that the floor would open up and let us in,
Regretting until the end of time every mortal sin.

But were the blunders that we made as serious as we think?
The mistakes of innocent childhood, or perhaps too much to drink?
Our thoughtless ramblings at the time, or spur of the moment deeds?
Over the years the curse of guilt on our worrying conscience feeds.

So do we judge ourselves too harshly, as the years roll by?
Could it be that it's harmless sins that haunt us, you and I?
Sins and indiscretions that never did offend our friends,
So there's no need for us at all to go back and make amends.

So if we took this backward flow, of time, to days of yore,
To meet the friends and acquaintances that we knew before.
And ask them for forgiveness, for the time we've yet to live,
Would they reply, "My dear old friend, there's nothing to forgive."